

Message Text

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15

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 H-01 SSO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-12

SY-04 /028 W

----- 032020

P R 230233Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 203

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS CHIANG MAI 325

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, TH

SUBJECT: DEATH OF "FARANG", POSSIBLY AMERICAN CITIZEN

1. BODY OF MALE CAUCASIAN KILLED BY FIREARM NEAR MUANG HAENG, CHIANG DAO DISTRICT, CHIANG MAI PROVINCE WAS TODAY (AUG 20) BROUGHT TO CHIANG MAI'S SUAN DAWK HOSPITAL FOR STORAGE. CONSULATE FIRST LEARNED THAT "A FARANG" HAD BEEN FOUND KILLED FROM LOCAL NEWSPAPER ON AUG 19. CONSULATE IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED BOTH PROVINCIAL POLICE AND BPP WHO SAID THEY WOULD NOTIFY US AS SOON AS MORE INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE. ON AUG 20 POLICE INFORMED CONSULATE BPP SENDING HELICOPTER TO SITE. VICE CONSUL STRATHEARN ACCOMPANIED HELICOPTER PARTY WHICH RETURNED BODY TO CHIANG MAI. POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF BODY NOT YET MADE.

2. MUAGN HAENG VILLAGE OFFICIALS SAID FARANG CAME TO TOWN AND RENTED MOTORCYCLE ON AUG 16, SPENT NIGHT AT WAT AND LEFT AT 0700 AUG 17 WALKING ON TRAIL TO CHIANG DAO. WHEN HE LEFT TOWN, HE REPORTEDLY HAD RUCKSACK, CAMERA AND WATCH, NONE OF WHICH WERE FOUND ON BODY. VILLAGERS SAID THEY LOCATED BODY AT 1000 SAME DAY ABOUT ONE HOUR'S WALK FROM TOWN. BODY WAS SHOT TWICE, THROUGH SIDE AND HEAD, BOTH ON LEFT SIDE APPARENTLY BY HOMEMADE SHOTGUN. ONLY ITEMS FOUND ON

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BODY WERE BUDDHA IMAGE AROUND NECK, FIVE BAHT CHANGE

AND CLOTHES. VILLAGE OFFICIALS SAID THAT AFTER BODY WAS FOUND, A VETERINARIAN VISITING FROM CHIANG DAO TOLD THEM HE HAD SPOKEN WITH THE FARANG WHO HAD SAID HE WAS AN AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST FROM UNIV OF MASS NAMED BOB CLARK. VETERINARIAN THEN LEFT VILLAGE, AND CONSULATE UNCERTAIN WHETHER HE IDENTIFIED BODY AS THAT OF MAN WITH WHOM HE HAD SPOKEN.

3. CONSULATE WILL CONTINUE INVESTIGATION AND ATTEMPT OBTAIN FINGERPRINTS FROM BODY TOMORROW.
IRICK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CHIANG00325
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740232-1101
From: CHIANG MAI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740824/aaaaatss.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 FEB 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEATH OF "FARANG", POSSIBLY AMERICAN CITIZEN
TAGS: CDES, TH, (CLARK, ROBERT)
To: STATE BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005